

Water Quality Protection Division



Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico Region 6 Update

Subject: **Water Quality Division Update # 52**
 Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico

Date: July 14, 2010

Reporting Period: July 13, 2010 1300 – July 14, 2010 1300

HIGHLIGHTS

- Coordination continues between Region 6, Region 4, OW, and the Corps on testing procedures and disposal alternatives for material dredged from SW Pass and other navigation channels potentially impacted by oil.
- Ongoing coordination between Region 6, Region 4, and OW regarding a discussion paper providing guidance on Gulf of Mexico dredged material management from major navigation channels.
- R6 coordinated with R4 to consolidate all comments received (R4, R6, and various HQ Offices) on BP's Liquid Waste and Materials Management Plan. The consolidated document was sent to the Coast Guard for review with the ultimate goal of presenting comments to BP by close of business today, Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

CONTINUING ISSUES

Forecast

Southwesterly winds are forecast to become W late Tuesday at 5-10 kts then be variable in direction for the next few days (W/NW/N). SE winds are forecast to begin late Thursday and continue through the weekend at speeds of 5-10 kts. Remote sensing imagery and overflights indicate that oil from the source is continuing to move to the south/southeast and there is very little oil remaining to the north. Imagery and overflights also indicate only several scattered sheens offshore to the west of the Delta; however, shorelines from Atchafalaya Bay to Southwest pass continue to be threatened by scattered tarballs for the next few days.

- For maps concerning shoreline impact assessments, oil slick forecasts, and sampling locations go to <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

Monitoring and Assessment

- Continuing to coordinate with HQ, Region 4, and the REOC Environmental Unit regarding planning activities and daily review of monitoring data.

Drinking Water

- Drinking water intakes, public drinking water wells, and domestic wells have not been impacted by the oil sheen to date.
- Region 6 continues to coordinate closely with the LDHH on all drinking water issues.

NPDES

- Participating in discussions with OW and R4 on options for modification of existing oil and gas general permits in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coastal Programs

Louisiana Large-Scale Coastal Barrier Plan:

- The Corps has requested additional information from the State prior to sending the full permit application package out for interagency review, expected to occur in the next day or two. Staff continue to participate on the interagency project review team and will participate in the weekly interagency update this afternoon.

Corps Emergency Authorizations for Coastal Protection Features:

- Staff continue to coordinate with OW and with the New Orleans Corps District on emergency permit requests for coastal oil containment proposals.
- The Region will participate on a conference call this afternoon on the rock and pipe boom barriers proposed for Pass Able and Quatre Bayou Pass.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

- It is anticipated that there may be re-oiling of several shorelines in the vicinity of CWPPRA projects.